

THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

OF CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

VOL. 1, No. 1

OCTOBER 1952

DR. SHEPHERD RESIGNS

Last June the Board of Directors of the Southeast Convention reluctantly accepted the resignation of Superintendent David W. Shepherd, to become effective August 30. The board commended him for the progress which has been made under his guidance in the five years he has served as superintendent.

During those years the Convention has been incorporated, and now owns a parsonage at 208 East Lake Drive in Atlanta. The office for the area has been set up and is reasonably well equipped. The leadership in the local churches across the Convention has considerably increased. A plan is under way to reorganize the entire Southeast Convention, beginning at the association level, so that the organization will be more integrated and will function smoothly with all groups knowing the aims and the program and all having a voice in the plans. A plan for the Convention coming to self-support will be submitted at the three fall conferences. All these are favorable signs of progress which give encouragement to all.

Dr. Shepherd has assumed the pastorate of the Oak Grove Church near Chipley, Georgia, and with his wife and family has moved into the parsonage there. We know that the church and community will make much progress under his leadership, and the best wishes of the board and of all the Congregational Christians in the area are with him in his new work.

INTRODUCING OUR NEW SUPERINTENDENT



The Reverend Erston M. Butterfield

At the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southeast Convention on September 12, the Rev. Erston M. Butterfield was unanimously voted as Superintendent, to succeed Dr. David W. Shepherd who resigned in August.

Mr. Butterfield is well qualified to take on the duties of Superintendent. He has been Assistant Superintendent of the Ohio Conference of Congregational Christian Churches since 1948, and resident consultant to the churches in Southern and Western Ohio on matters of organization, program, committee work, and church and pastor relations. He has done

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60TH ANNIVERSARY MARKED BY COUPLE

*Soddy Congregational Church
Pays Honor to
Rev. and Mrs. Day*

The Rev. and Mrs. George Leader Day of Soddy celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on August 1. The Congregational Church held an open house in their honor, and many friends called upon the couple.

Mr. and Mrs. Day are natives of England and were married in Wadlingham, Lincolnshire, on Aug. 1, 1892. After serving the church in England for two years, they went to the Orient as missionaries, spending 10 years in Palestine, where they conducted a school for Jewish boys.

In 1910, they came to the United States. Mr. and Mrs. Day are ordained ministers, and they have served together in parishes in Minnesota, Florida, North Carolina and Tennessee. They last served at the Barton Chapel in Robbins, Tenn.

Upon retirement they came to live in Soddy, where Mr. Day was formerly pastor. He still continues to preach when called upon, not only in his own, but other denominations. Mr. and Mrs. Day have no relatives in the United States, but they have a host of friends who honor them and the great work they have done.

Mr. Day's letter says, "This gave us an opportunity to greet old friends and we spent two happy hours together. We were also handed an envelope containing \$150 which proved very acceptable as you will see.

"On August 5th, Mrs. Day had the misfortune to fall on a floor in the house and injure her left thigh. . . . X-ray revealed a broken bone and the need of a surgical operation. The operation proved a success and she has made good progress towards recovery for a woman of her age . . . the doctors think she will be OK in 90 days."

SOUTHERN UNION COLLEGE

With a new dean and five new faculty members, Southern Union College began its 30th year on September 13. Dean A. R. Van Cleave has returned to the campus after an absence of seventeen years. During that time he has served as both president and dean of Piedmont College. Other new faculty members are: Reverend Daniel Novotny, Mrs. Daniel Novotny, Miss Maggie Frazer, Mrs. James Cleveland, and R. C. Swango. Faculty members returning to the campus this fall were: Dr. Elizabeth Nichols, Reverend and Mrs. Clarence S. Bennett, Miss Vera Van Cleave and David Eddy.

During the summer months a number of very important changes were made on the campus. The men's dormitory was moved from Elder Hall to the old president's house, the library moved from the basement of Kimball Hall to the second floor of Elder Hall. The old library will be used as a recreation room. The president's office was moved to the second floor of Elder Hall. The secretary, dean, and treasurer remain in the main office on the first floor.

Churches in the Convention area which have paid their full quota on the dollar-per-member plan to help the college will be presented certificates at the fall conferences. President Flannery will attend the Kentucky-Tennessee and the Alabama Conference and Dean Van Cleave the Georgia Conference.

Ministers in School

Jimmie French, Lynwood Hubbard and Charles Bell are enrolled for the fall quarter. These men are a big asset to the college and, we are sure, will be much more valuable to the churches they are serving.

REORGANIZATION PLAN for SOUTHEAST CONVENTION

At a spring meeting of the Valley Congregational Christian Ministers' Association, a definite need for a better over-all organizational structure was discussed — one that would make the program and the work of the associations and conferences within the Convention more related. There were many helpful suggestions made by the ministers, and these have been worked up into skeleton form.

A draft of this proposed constitution and by-laws has been presented to the association meetings for their consideration and acceptance with whatever changes and modifications may be necessary to meet local needs.

This matter of reorganization will be presented at the state conference meetings in October, and to the Southeast Convention of Congregational Christian Churches at the biennial meeting next spring.

Briefly, the plan is to have the moderator of the Southeast Convention be the chairman of the Executive Committee and of the Board of Directors. The Executive Committee of the Southeast Convention will be composed of the moderators of the three conferences. The Board of Directors would include two additional members of the Board of Directors from each conference, arranged so that one minister, one representative of the layman's fellowship and one representative of the women's fellowship, with the staff members of the convention *ex officio* members.

The Executive Boards of the three state conferences would include the moderators of the associations within the conference. The Board of Directors of the associations and conferences would be the moderator, assistant moderator, scribe, treasurer, committee chairmen, presidents of laymen's fellowship, women's fellowship and Pilgrim fellowship.

The Executive Committee of the Southeast Convention will meet monthly, with a full board meeting in the spring, fall and winter quarters. On the conference level, there would be at least two meetings of the Board of Directors during the year, besides the regular annual meeting. There should be, on the association level, at least quarterly meetings of the Board of Directors, and two meetings of the association — one in the spring primarily for inspiration and fellowship, and one in the fall for business and church reports.

It is hoped that the Benevolence and Per Capita Dues will be paid to the treasurers of the associations, and disbursed in a manner prescribed by the Board of Directors of the association. We realize that this added responsibility will mean that persons should be elected to office who will be fully responsible and dependable — who will have the time to attend the board meetings. Therefore, it is suggested that at least one member of the Board of Directors and the superintendent of the Southeast Convention serve as advisory members of the nominating committees of the conferences and the associations.

There will be a Stewardship Commission in the Southeast Convention, with state Stewardship Committee chairmen making up this executive committee. Association Stewardship Committee chairmen should be on the state conference committees. The chairman of the state committees on stewardship will be members of the national committee on "Our Christian World Mission." The apportionment goals of each local church will be set up by the stewardship committee within the association or state conference committee, working with the officers of the local church. It is

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**SOUTHEAST CONVENTION OF
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**GEORGIA COUNCIL
OF CHURCHES
BEING LAUNCHED**

On Tuesday, November 25, at 7:30 p.m., the Georgia Council of Churches will be organized and officers installed. Committee work has been in progress for the past several years, with representatives from fourteen denominations representing a membership of over a million Protestants in the State of Georgia.

The Rev. Rembert Sisson has served as Executive Committee chairman, and the Rev. Chas. Erickson as secretary. The Rev. Ernest Arnold, director of the Southeastern Regional office of the National Council of Churches, has very effectively guided the organizational process.

At last year's Georgia Conference, membership in the new council was authorized with the following delegates named: Dr. Thos. Anderson, Rev. R. Chase Tappan, H. A. Strickland, Rev. Henry Weaver, John McManus and Rev. Chas. Erickson.

It is believed that 1% of the benevolent giving of each participating denominational body will enable Georgia to establish a Christian Council of which all may be proud.

**CHURCH BUILDING
LOAN FUND**

Faced with the grim facts of responsibilities which could not be met and opportunities which could not be accepted, the General Council conducted area meetings to determine the feeling of the people about what should be done to help meet these needs. Growing out of these area meetings was the request of the Board of Home Missions that a fund of \$4,500,000 be raised to add to the Church Building Revolving Loan Fund. This request was enthusiastically approved by the General Council.

In presenting the case, Mr. William Kincaid Newman, secretary of the Church Building Department, said, "During 1949-51, we had to decline applications of \$2,368,600 for lack of funds. Each application was extremely worthy of our help." The unprecedented increase in population and the constant moving about of the people has resulted in many unchurched and inadequately churched people. New communities require new churches and rapidly growing communities require increased facilities for established churches. The result of inflation has also decreased our ability to help churches in the way of loans.

It is expected that the fund will be secured in the years 1953 through 1954. Dr. Albert Stauffacher is the national director of the fund campaign, which is divided into six areas, with headquarters for our area in Cleveland, Ohio, with Mr. Frank H. Korab as the director.

There will be a director for the Southeast Convention, chairman and associate chairman for each conference, chairman and associate chairman for each association, and chair-

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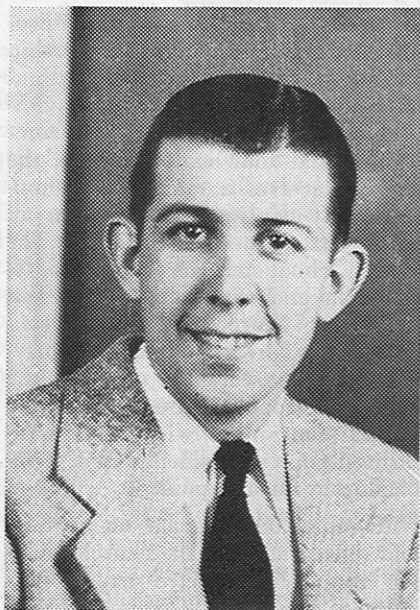
NEW PASTOR WELCOMED TO UNITED, LA GRANGE

Members of the *LaGrange United Church, LaGrange, Georgia*, welcomed the Rev. John E. Pickens, Jr., July 20, when he officially assumed the duties of pastor of the church.

Mr. Pickens came to LaGrange from Maine where he won his bachelor of arts degree from the University of Maine at Orno, and the Bangor Theological Seminary.

While a student at Bangor, he organized and served as pastor the First Community Church of Cherryfield, Me., a town of about 800 population. The First Community Church includes Baptists, Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Methodists, and Congregationalists in its membership. He also served as dean of the Eastern Maine Summer School, a training school for youth, as he is keenly interested in young people and their programs.

When a junior in high school, he volunteered for service with the famous Flying Tigers and served under General Claire Chennault from December, 1939, until 1941, when the Flying Tigers became a part of the United States Air Force. He served as pilot and while in the U. S. Army Air Force, won the Purple Heart, the Silver Star, the Flying Cross and the Air Medal. He was discharged in



Rev. John E. Pickens, Jr.

1946 with the rank of Major.

Mr. Pickens was married seven years ago to Alpha Worsham of Fort Myers, Fla. They have three children, Katherine, age 5; John, age 3; and Richard, nine months old.

His father, the Rev. John E. Pickens, is assistant superintendent of the Congregational Conference in Florida.

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE LAYMEN

The laymen of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference held their first Laymen's Fellowship week-end on July 26-27 at Pamona, Tennessee.

Saturday evening, after a supper and vesper service, led by Sherwood Landrum, a general meeting was held on the theme of "Our Place in the Church."

A laymen's workshop was held on Sunday morning. Emerson Poste, president of the Kentucky-Tennessee Laymen's Fellowship, made the open-

ing statement, followed by a report on the National Council by Herman Cook, president of the Alabama Laymen's Fellowship and member of the National Committee of Laymen. Joe W. Davis spoke on "Talents, Time and Money."

Next on the program was a clinic — The Layman in His Church, and after lunch the Laymen's Discussion Group, led by Emerson P. Poste, ended the sessions.

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES

Central of Atlanta continues to progress. Applications for membership are announced practically every Sunday. With nine organizations, in addition to the Church School, eight committees and four major boards, the church involves a total of one hundred fifty-two men and women in places of elected leadership. The church school staff consists of twenty-five men and women at the present time. The church membership consists now of five hundred and forty-eight people scattered all over the Atlanta metropolitan area. The parish is sixty-four miles wide now, from farthest point of resident active membership to farthest point.

A \$6,500.00 program of painting and redecoration of the church building recently completed makes it a place of true beauty bringing honor to God and Christ and inspiration to the people of its membership and of the city. The Sanctuary walls have been changed in color to a lovely soft green and the dark woodwork changed to white enamel. During the present pastorate over \$25,000.00 have been provided from the field for improvements, new furnishings, and redecorating.

All who know *Central of Atlanta* agree that it has achieved the right to call itself "A HOUSE OF INSPIRATION."

The *Andalusia Antioch Church*, with the Reverend Hugh Lasseter as pastor, nears completion. The Sanctuary is finished but the basement is incomplete as yet. The church adopted a budget of \$5,000 for this year and pledges already total \$600 over this figure.

The *Pilgrim Church of Corbin, Kentucky*, has made much progress in

the past year, since the Reverend Raymond Berry has been on the field. Prior to his leaving in September to continue his education at Hartford Seminary, the church people reviewed the progress made as they began looking for another pastor.

The church budget has tripled, going from around \$750 per year to more than \$2,000. The people realize that \$150 per month is a small salary to offer a pastor, unless they can secure another Vanderbilt student to serve the church. The church has been remodeled with the tower, which had become a hazard, removed. A Hammond organ has been purchased. The parsonage has been remodeled too, so as to have a large dining room which has been used by the Woman's Fellowship to serve luncheons.

* * *

The *Circular Church of Charleston, S. C.*, has voted to purchase a Baldwin organ, and a canvass has been organized to raise the needed money. This is a large undertaking for the church, as they have had to make extensive repairs to the church roof, and it indicates their devotion to the church and their faith in its future.

The men and women formerly met for a mixed Bible Class, but due to a demand for a men's class one has been organized.

* * *

Spiritual growth is evident around the *United Church in Phenix City* these days. Attendance at worship services is very good. Since this church year began last October, 22 new members have been added to its fellowship. That represents a gain of about 20% in membership.

The church is moving along with the construction of its new educational plant, which by the way, is being done by the members of the church. When

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES

completed, it will add 2,800 feet of floor space which is needed very badly. The building, when completed, will provide six additional class rooms, a kitchen, and fellowship hall.

* * *

The completion of the Christian Education rooms which have been added to *Williams Chapel Church, Waycross, Georgia*, has given new life to the church program and inspiration to the church people. A dining hall and kitchen were added along with the Sunday School rooms.

On September 12, the Sunday School Workers Council of the South Georgia Association met at the church. A fellowship supper was followed by a discussion on ways to improve the Sunday Schools within the Association.

A study course, "New Training for Service," began on September 14, and is being taught by the pastor, the Reverend Ralph Worley.

The church is very proud of one of its boys, Robert Hendrix, who is now pastor of the Main Street Congregational Church in Greentown, Indiana. He is attending school at Marion College in Marion, Indiana.

* * *

The pastor of the *Federated Church of Demorest, Georgia*, the Reverend Charles O. Erickson, with his wife and son have returned from a pleasant vacation spent with his parents in North Carolina and with her parents in LaGrange, Illinois.

The church has planned a potluck supper followed by a church meeting for the third Tuesday of each month. In September the program was a discussion on the new Revised Standard Version of the Bible which has just been published.

The Reverend Annie R. Campbell has recovered from a throat operation at the Highland Baptist Hospital in Birmingham. During her absence the pulpit of the *Garden City Church* was supplied by Mr. John Folsom, the new principal; the Reverend C. C. Dollar of Wadley; and Miss Loretta Petersen, the Southeast Convention extension worker. The week-end she was with the church, Miss Petersen organized a young people's group and made plans for a North Alabama Young People's Association.

* * *

An inspiring revival at the *Todd Congregational Christian Church, Shaumut, Alabama*, was concluded on August 31st, with the Reverend Julius Rice of Elon College, as the guest speaker. The Reverend Charlie Hanson is the regular pastor.

The Alice Long Missionary Circle is doing splendid work under the direction of Mrs. Manning Yates. The group has been hostess to several miscellaneous showers for the needy, and has made generous contributions toward improvement of the church.

* * *

The *Community Congregational Church of Stearns, Kentucky*, with the Reverend George S. Hunt as pastor, has reviewed its progress during the past eight years, in order that they might more clearly visualize what the church had accomplished.

Forty-four new members were received into the church, and fourteen children were christened. The church has purchased new hymnals, received a gift of a Hammond organ, enlarged the Chancel, refinished the floors and woodwork, modernized the kitchen and installed bath facilities, installed the Upton Altar set, and painted the building. During the Lenten Season of 1952, a Visitation Evangelism Campaign was conducted, and this

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES

resulted in the reception of eleven new members on Easter Sunday.

A daily vacation Bible School was held during this past summer, in connection with the recreation program sponsored by the McCreary County Woman's Club. A kindergarten will be held in the church during this school year, and the church will continue to welcome the various service clubs and fraternal organizations to meet at the church as an expression of hospitality and cordiality to the community.

* * *

The *Pleasant Grove Congregational Christian Church*, located on Route 3, *Lafayette, Alabama*, membership of 115, is completing plans for a brick veneer building which will include Sunday School rooms and basement.

The Ladies' Fellowship is an active part of the church program, with an enrollment of twenty-four, and meets monthly.

Under the supervision of the pastor, the Reverend Charles Bell, a Pilgrim Fellowship was organized last month. The boys and girls are taking an active part in the new work and a good future is indicated.

* * *

The *Congregational Church at Pisgah, Alabama*, although small in numbers is rather large in good influence. People who are members of the church, and some who have attended its services in the past, have moved away. However, they seem not to forget the little church back home, as proven by those attending the Homecoming on August 26. Folks came from Key West and Panama City, Florida; from Atlanta, Smyrna and other places in Georgia; from Lanett, Wadley and other places in Alabama. The first people to arrive for the eleven o'clock church service were from Chicago. Oak Ridge and Chatta-

nooga, Tennessee, were well represented. In all there were about 150 people present.

The Rev. John Dollar preached the sermon, and Judson Clark organized a choir of some thirty good singers for the morning service. After a bountiful and delicious dinner on the church grounds, an afternoon session of singing was enjoyed with the Scottsboro quartet (of radio fame) and the Clark quartet.

The pastor of the church, the Reverend John M. Peyton, reports that the church has had a good year and that he and his wife have enjoyed knowing the fine people.

* * *

The *East Tallassee Congregational Church* has called the Reverend David Clark to serve them again. The church is running a full schedule with Sunday School, morning worship, Young People's Meeting and evening worship each Sunday.

The choir meets each Tuesday night for practice under the direction of the pastor. Mrs. Louise Clark is serving as pianist.

The Woman's Fellowship meets each second Monday night of the month. Mrs. Wilma Pemberton is serving as president this year, with Miss Christine Durden as vice-president. The year books have been filled in with places of meetings, hostess and program chairman for the year. The Fellowship met Monday night, September 8th, at the home of Mrs. Jettie Logan, who is the president of Alabama women's work. She had an inspirational program and was assisted by some newcomers: Mrs. Arthur Knowles, Mrs. Mark Harwell and Miss Nettie Gresham.

The church has received several new members in the last few months. All are young people who came on profession of faith.

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES



The *North Highland Congregational Christian Church of Columbus, Georgia*, had a ground breaking ceremony on Sunday, July 20, 1952, for a new addition to their church. Shown above participating in the program are, left to right: the Rev. Peter Doherty, pastor; Lewis Howell, chairman of the Building Committee; Mrs. A. S. Duke, who joined the church in 1905; Mrs. J. H. Stuart, who joined in 1907; and Richard Spire, youngest member. For over forty years the church has had to get along with a one-room building. During the last eighteen months four Sunday School rooms have been added and now the new wing is well

on its way to completion. It will consist of a kitchen, ladies' rest room, men's rest room, and a large social room which can be used as two Sunday School classrooms. More than two thousand dollars has been pledged by members and friends on this new wing, which will cost six thousand dollars.

An extra three thousand should be spent on the original building and this does not include new furniture. This small group of hard working people have responded generously in their giving and we predict great progress for the near future of this church.

THE LAYMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The East Alabama-West Georgia Men's Fellowship met August 30 at Langdale, Alabama, with about seventy-five men present and fourteen churches represented.

During the business session, a budget was adopted for next year, with about half the amount to go to Southern Union College and the remainder to develop men's work in the area. New officers were elected as follows: Odell Yancey, president; A. D. Harry, vice-president; James Dollar, secretary and treasurer; Winfred Walters, finance chairman; Herman Cook, membership chairman; Johnny Seymour, program chairman; Luke Huey, findings; Walter Crutchfield, publicity; and Dorsey Moon, social chairman.

After the business session, the Reverend A. B. Bedford, pastor of the Circular Congregational Church, Charleston, S. C., and father of the Langdale pastor, A. G. Bedford, brought an inspirational message as the main speaker of the evening.

The next quarterly meeting will be with the Reverend Pete Doherty at the North Highland Church, Columbus, Georgia. Installation of the elected officers will be held at this meeting.

* * *

The North Alabama Laymen's Rally was held June 29 at the Garden City Church, Garden City, Alabama. Guest speakers were the Reverend C. C. Dollar of Wadley, and Rev. F. J. Mehrtens, of the Evangelical and Reformed Church of Cullman. Mountain Grove Church fellowship graciously helped Garden City's fellowship to serve a luncheon to the delegates.

Lawson Vincent, who attended the Laymen's Retreat at Wadley as a

member of the newly organized laymen's group of the Garden City Church, brought back valuable information for the group.

* * *

The Laymen's Fellowship of the First Congregational Christian Church of Andalusia recently elected Glen Brunson and Leroy Peavy as president and vice-president, respectively. With the help of the program, lookout, and other committees, the new president expects the club to do much during the next year for the church.

The Laymen's Fellowship meets twice each month, taking one of the nights for business of the church and the other for fellowship, recreation or entertainment. At the last meeting, Mr. Horsemeyer, a school teacher from DeFuniak Springs, Florida, gave a talk on "Education of Our Youth." Being an educator, he gave a very interesting talk and answered several questions that members of the church men's club wanted to know.

Members of the Laymen's Fellowship are eager to assist any neighboring church in organizing a similar club in their church — upon request.

* * *

The Laymen's Fellowship of the United Church, Phenix City, Alabama, met September 8 and enjoyed a supper together. It was decided at this time to meet monthly hereafter, the first Tuesday of each month, for supper and a planned program and fellowship together. Sixteen men were present, and it is hoped to expand the number to twenty-five for the October meeting.

New officers elected for the coming year are as follows: Harry Barr, president; Wilson Rodgers, vice-president; Howard Weaver, secretary; Herman Bloodworth, treasurer.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

The Ladies' Aid of the Thorsby Congregational Christian Church of Thorsby, Alabama, has elected new officers as follows: president, Mrs. Lewis Johnson; vice-president, Mrs. Lloyd Howard; secretary, Mrs. A. N. Laurell; treasurer, Mrs. Jim Collins.

During the past year, the Ladies' Aid has met monthly with devotions and prepared program. They observed the World Day of Prayer and invited the ladies of the Lutheran Church to join with them and take part on the program.

The Friendly Service chairman sent a number of fish hooks to Micronesia, collected and sent home canned foods to the Women's Rally for Southern Union College, collected and sent clean used clothes to the Women's Retreat. They have also collected wool rags to send to a well-known rug company to be made into a rug for the church.

* * *

The Women's Christian Service Club of the United Church in Phenix City carried on a membership drive during the months of July and August. This campaign was climaxed by the losing team giving the winning side a party, which was held in the Community Building at Flat Rock Park on September 10, 1952. Games and refreshments were enjoyed by approximately 20 members.

The anniversary of the W.C.S.C. was celebrated on August 13, 1952, at Pritchett's Fish Camp. An interesting program on the history of the organization was presented, along with the previewing of pictures that were made of the club and its activities in past years. Louise Rodgers was in charge of the program.

PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP

The 1952-1953 program is off to a good start with five successful Pilgrim Fellowship summer conferences being held throughout the summer. The attendance at the conferences was good. The different conference groups elected their officers for their area. These officers will get their heads together at the state meetings and make plans for the coming year. (Please take note, officers!)

Attention, All P. F.ers! Work Day for Christ will soon be here again! October 25th is the date! Let's see if we can go over our last year's total. Make plans now to see your neighbor and friends about cutting the lawns, washing cars, scrubbing windows, and raking leaves, etc., etc.!! Let us have every PF group participate in this world-wide day of work for Christ.

We have a new Pilgrim Fellowship group in Georgia! The young people of Oak Grove, Chipley Church have organized and are "steaming right along" with their new officers, plans and goals. This new group has a fine spirit—a spirit which will surely lead the group to success. Let us do all we can to help this new group. If your group has any interesting ideas or plans that you think would be of help to a new group, send them down to Chipley. In return, perhaps Chipley can give your group some ideas.

Rumors are flying! Rumors about a big "Hamburger Fry" at Pine Mountain State Park! Who's going? Why the young people of Columbus North Highland! Yes, it seems that two teams were set up in the group. A contest was held and the loser of the contest had to entertain the winning side to a "Hamburger Fry" at Pine Mountain State Park. More details about the event next time!

HOW MANY MILES TO THE HEART OF A CHILD?



Savariammal and Theresammal,
of Kodaikanal, South India

It's 11,000 miles from Baker, Florida, to Madurai, South India, but the hand of fellowship from the Christian Endeavor Society of the Good Hope Church of Baker reaches to a little eight-year-old girl named Savariammal, to send her to the Lucy Perry Noble Institute in Madurai.

This was brought about by the seven delegates who attended the Pilgrim Fellowship Conference last April and brought back to the church the impressive talk by Miss Oline Nicholson about the work and the needs of this institute. She explained their plan of adopting a needy child to send to the school. The members of the society at Good Hope immediately became interested in helping this school and some unfortunate child. An offering was taken that night and on April 22 the first check for \$18.00 was mailed. This pays for six months in school, including food.

Recently a letter came to the society from Miss Marion Brown, manager of

the institute, with a picture of the child. "Now that school has begun, and everyone is settled in, I have assigned a girl for your society to adopt. She is Savariammal, the older of the two sisters whose picture I enclose. These two girls come from Kodaikanal, a beautiful summer resort on a mountain top eighty miles from Madurai. The father has deserted the mother, who has eight children to care for. A neighbor told me that every morning the mother would line up the children and give them each a handful of peanuts for their breakfast. She would then instruct them to go to school and to behave themselves; even though they were hungry, they were not to beg. She and the two oldest girls would then go off to work as servants, leaving all the younger ones to take care of each other.

"Although Savariammal is eight years old, she is in first grade. The children did not go to school regularly in Kodaikanal, as they were often without any clothes but rags. However, she is in the advanced section, which will be promoted to second grade in a few months. She is a nice, happy girl, and takes responsibility for her little sister. It is a great help to the mother to have two of her little ones safe here. Already the girls are looking stronger and fatter, though they have been here only a month. We are grateful to you for your help in caring for this child."

Hats off to the young people of Kentucky-Tennessee! These two states had representatives from every PF in the states present at their summer conference. These two states will surely be up to date as to what is going on at the state and national level. Let us work hard this next year and see if all the states in the Southeast Convention will have 100% attendance at summer conferences.

ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

The South Alabama and West Florida Association met at Coldwater Church, Andalusia, Alabama, on August 8-9, with every church in the area but two represented by delegates. After a delicious dinner served at the church, the moderator, the Reverend A. C. Nelson, called the meeting to order about 1:45 P.M. The devotional was given by the Coldwater Church. Mrs. Bob Gantt welcomed all visitors. The response was given by the Reverend Collie Seymour.

The Reverend Hugh Lasseter talked on "The Christian at the Ballot Box," asking the people to check themselves to see if they acted as Christ would have them act at the church elections. He added, "We must cast our Christian ballots for God's work or the work cannot go on."

After the business session, reports of the churches, and appointment of committees, the Reverend S. M. Penn talked on "Visitation Evangelism." Mr. Penn stated, "Each Christian must have the vision of Christ in his life before he can bring other people to Christ."

"The Church School" was then discussed by Mr. James Bell, who said, "We must start teaching the child about Jesus or we lose the adult as a Christian leader."

The Reverend Clyde Flannery, president of Southern Union College, told of the progress being made through the help of the churches and the many Christian donors. He made a very encouraging statement, "Any boy or girl who wants a college education will find Southern Union's door open to them." He added that many more Christian workers and ministers are needed.

After supper, Mrs. Melvin Williamson talked on "The Women and the Church." At this time women from each church were given an oppor-

tunity to report on their work.

The film, "More for Peace," was presented by the Reverend David W. Shepherd. After seeing the film, those present felt that it brought more clearly to them the fact that God loves all colors and nations of the world, that it takes all colors to make the world and it is the duty of all Christians to love and help each other.

The Reverend N. A. Long gave the benediction, and the meeting adjourned until the following morning.

After a devotional by the Good Hope Church people, the Reverend N. A. Long opened the Saturday morning session with a talk on "Personal Evangelism." He said that each Christian should live a Christian life every day, and not just on Sunday or once a year.

Officers were elected for next year as follows: Rev. Hugh Lasseter, moderator; Rev. Collie Seymour, assistant moderator; and Mrs. Bernice Carter, Scribe and Treasurer.

A panel discussion on Stewardship was led by the Reverend Hugh Lasseter, with Arthur Wallace, Bill Andress and James Bell as participants. Points brought out in the discussion were that unless each person is a good steward in his church, the church will fall short in its program. In tithing, we only return to God a small part of what he has given to us.

The closing sermon was given by the Reverend D. W. Shepherd. Regrets were expressed at his resignation as superintendent.

The Association meeting closed with a dinner.

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The Central Association met at Watson Chapel Church near Eclectic, Ala., August 15-16, the Rev. David Clark as the moderator. Mrs. Roy Culpepper served as secretary, and

(Continued on next page)

Mrs. Jettie Logan as temporary treasurer. The Rev. M. O. Worley was the host pastor.

The meeting was called to order and committees were appointed by the moderator. The program, with the theme "Enlistment for Christ," was adopted by the Association. Delegates from Mt. Olive, Watson Chapel, and Thorsby churches gave the devotions throughout the program. Delegates from each church gave reports.

One of the important factors of the Association was the discussion of the plan of the proposed constitution of the Southeast Convention. The Rev. Clyde Flannery, of Southern Union College, and the Rev. Joe French of Lanett, Ala., led in the discussion, which was very helpful to everyone. The Association voted to adopt the plan.

Officers for the coming year are: moderator, Rev. M. O. Worley; assistant moderator, Mrs. Jettie Logan; secretary and treasurer, Mrs. Roy Culpepper. The next Association will be at the Mt. Olive Church, near Tallassee, Ala., August 14-15, 1953.

Out of the eight churches in the Central Association, there were seven represented. Churches represented were: East Tallassee, Mt. Olive, Thorsby, Union Mt. Creek, Union Eclectic, Watson Chapel, and Balm of Gilead.

* * *

The North Alabama Association met at Mt. Lebanon Church in Steele, Alabama, on August 23-24. The Association was called to order by the moderator, Dr. Guy L. Colbert.

After a devotional, led by Brother Mulkey, and a song and prayer by the Reverend Elmer Smith, the host pastor, the Reverend Robert Shelton led a worship service. The sermon was given by the Reverend Clyde C. Flannery, entitled "God the Father vs. Paganism."

A discussion on the reorganization

of the Southeast Convention was led by the Reverend Flannery. The moderator commented on church reports, committees, objectives of the meeting, etc.

The people then divided for the group meetings—the men with Brown Bradford, the women with Mrs. Ed Clark, and the young people with the Reverend Annie Campbell.

After a supper on the church grounds, the meeting was called to order for the evening session. The ordination of Ernest Shelton followed, with the Reverend Flannery preaching the ordination sermon.

On Sunday morning the Reverend Campbell spoke on "The Church as a Light on a Hill," and after a scripture reading and meditation led by the Reverend Elmer Smith, Dr. Colbert gave the sermon.

Officers were elected for the next year as follows: Dr. Guy L. Colbert, moderator; Mrs. Frances Colbert, scribe. The Association accepted the invitation of the Caddo Friendship Church, Trinity, Alabama, to meet with them in 1953.

After remarks by the Reverend Shelton, the Reverend Vel M. Bayne delivered the afternoon sermon, following which the Association was adjourned.

REORGANIZATION

(From page 3)

hoped that every church will pay at least ten per cent of the current church budget as a starting point.

Apportionment and benevolent monies are to be paid to the association treasurer, who will retain ten per cent for promotional and committee work within the association. This amount is to be divided between the association and the state conference treasurers on a basis worked out by

the boards of directors of the associations and conferences. Where there is no association organization, the conference will assume this responsibility of promotion, and will receive this money and retain its share for the promotional work.

The per capita dues should be raised to .30 per member in the associations and conferences now paying less than that. The treasurer would pay to the convention office .20 per member for national dues. Any surplus between what is received by the association treasurer and that paid as the national dues is to be retained by the association for committee work.

We are hoping that the bulk of the promotional and committee work will be done on the association level. This will shorten the travel distances, create a better spirit of neighborliness among the churches and will develop leadership for our associations and conferences.

LOAN FUND (From page 4)

man and associate chairman for each local church.

A film, "The Basis of the Blueprint," telling the story of the Church Building Society and how it has helped churches get started and assisted them in rebuilding (15 min.) will be shown to the conferences and will be available to the churches from the Convention office.

In no case should this campaign be confused with or taken from gifts to "Our Christian World Mission."

Important matters are for each church to accept a goal and adopt a plan for raising it, making sure that the entire amount will be paid in the three calendar years — '52, '53, '54. When goals are accepted, association chairman should be notified.

Apportionment credit will not be given to gifts for this church building loan fund. Funds are to be used to provide low interest loans to churches.

BUTTERFIELD —

(From page 1)

extensive work in the rural field including experimentation in the Area Ministry, described by Dr. Thos. A. Tripp as the third great advance in rural work since the turn of the century. The story of the area ministry in the Hamersville District of Ohio is told in the colored film strips with recorded scripts entitled: "Adventure in Fellowship," prepared for the Ohio Conference by E. M. Butterfield. These filmstrips will be shown at the three state conferences in October, and Mr. Butterfield will be present at these meetings to be introduced to the people.

During the past five years, Mr. Butterfield has averaged over 500 appointments, traveling over 40,000 miles in the service of local churches, associations, and the conference every year.

He received his A.B. degree from the University of Michigan and graduated from the Oberlin Graduate School of Theology with a B.D. degree in 1946. He has been in Y.M.-C.A. work and has had two years' teaching experience. He was very active in Pilgrim Fellowship work in Michigan, doing promotional work in one hundred and fifty Michigan churches while he was state president and national board member. He also served on the National Council of Pilgrim Fellowship from 1936 to 1941. Mr. Butterfield has had extensive youth and religious education work, having written various articles and booklets in those fields.

Mr. Butterfield will move to Atlanta with his wife, Isabel, and two daughters, Isabel Diane, aged 7, and Kathleen Ann, aged 4, before January 1st.

We are glad to welcome Mr. Butterfield to the staff of the Southeast Convention and wish him a very happy and successful experience as superintendent.

NOTICE

YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS COPY OF THE SOUTH-EAST CONVENTION NEWS FREE TO ACQUAINT YOU WITH THE MAGAZINE. PLEASE GIVE YOUR SUBSCRIPTION TO THE SUBSCRIPTION CHAIRMAN OF YOUR CHURCH. Rates are \$1.75 per year, single subscription; \$1.50 per year in group subscriptions.

If the subscription list builds up to a sufficient number it will be possible to reduce the price of subscriptions next year.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Oct. 5 — World-wide Communion
- Oct. 12 — Laymen's Sunday
- Oct. 19 — World Order Sunday, commemorating anniversary of the United Nations organization
- Oct. 23-24 — Georgia Conference, at Vanceville, Georgia
- Oct. 25 — Pilgrim Fellowship *Work Day for Christ*
- Oct. 25-26 — Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, at Evarts, Kentucky
- Oct. 28-29 — Alabama Conference, at Phenix City, Alabama

Ministers and delegates to the three state conferences are URGED to notify the host pastors of each conference, so the church will have some idea of how many people will be attending.

GEORGIA CONFERENCE: Notify Rev. Henry Abbott, RFD 5, Tifton, Georgia.

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE CONFERENCE: Notify Mr. Herman Patterson, Evarts, Kentucky.

ALABAMA CONFERENCE: Notify Rev. Lowell A. Smoot, 1518 Edmonds Avenue, Phenix City, Alabama.

PASTORAL CHANGES SINCE JANUARY, 1952

CALLS:

John E. Pickens, to LaGrange United
Henry C. Weaver, to Atlanta, Center
Earl Hand (full-time), to Pearson, Union Hill

David Smith, to Soddy Congregational

D. W. Shepherd (full-time), to Chipley, Oak Grove

Major Logan Weston, as asst. pastor, Columbus, North Highland

RESIGNATIONS:

Jas. W. McGehee, from Columbus, United

Raymond Berry, from Corbin, Pilgrim to Hartford Seminary, Conn.

Maurice W. Kiphart, from Evarts, Ky.
F. C. Barner, from Brantley Parish, Alabama

R. Chase Tappan, from Atlanta, Center

Carl W. Parker, from Macedonia Parish in North Georgia

Wm. B. Graham, from Ft. Valley, Society Hill and First Congregational Church

Earl Hand, from Baxley, Friendship and Bristol, Antioch

Thos. H. Britton, from Lexington, Southside, which has been closed

Wm. R. Walker, from Nashville, Collegeside, which has been closed.

Harold Davenport, from Soddy, First, to go to Iowa Conference

ORDINATIONS:

The Rev. Ernest Shelton, at the North Alabama Association meeting at Steele, Alabama, August 23, 1952.

The Rev. Roy Chatham, at LaGrange, Georgia, in March, 1952.

RECOGNITION:

Allen Price, D.V.M.; and Ray Price, A.B. degrees, at the Garden City Congregational Church.